[23rd November 1955

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (a) Only the Sub-Magistrate, Poonamallee, who was deputed to hold Court at Avadi between the 17th and 23rd January 1955, was paid travelling allowance. Nobody else was paid any travelling allowance.

(b) No.

(c) An expenditure of Rs. 58-2-0 was incurred towards travelling allowance in respect of the Sub-Magistrate, Poonamallee.

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : May I know whether the hon. Judges of the High Court of Judicature, Madras, were all invited for this political gathering by any political party chief?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The Government have no information. (Laughter.)

Local Development Works

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, both the questions Nos. 2777 and 2778 may be taken up together.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, they may be taken up together.

* 2777 *Q.*—M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be peased to state—

(a) the amount sanctioned for Local Development Works in South Kanara for 1954–55;

(b) whether the whole amount sanctioned was spent during the year; and

(c) if not, why?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Rs. 3,02,700.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The entire grant allotted could not be spent as there was not sufficient enthusiasm for the works from the people.

* 2778 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the estimated cost of the schemes under Local Development sanctioned for South Kanara in 1955–56?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : One hundred and ninety works, involving a total estimated cost of Rs. 8,03,840 have been included under the Local Development Works Programme for 1955–56.

SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Sir, these works are expected to be completed by the 31st of March but the estimates for bridge work and other building works have not been prepared and it may not be possible to complete them by that period. So, will the Government consider the desirability of extending the period till June so that these works can be completed as during the rainy season which lasts for about six months it is not possible to prepare the estimates?

23rd November 1955]

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : There is no question of extending the time-limit. But the hon. Member may see that people take sufficient interest and all efforts are put forth to do as much as possible within the year, and then for the next year sufficient allotment will again be made for completing the works.

SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY : Are the Government aware that several works are held up for want of supply of iron departmentally. If so, what steps the Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Wherever this matter is brought to the notice of the Government, they pay particular attention to it and see that the need is fulfilled.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Are the Government aware that people are not in a position to take so much interest in sending the plans to the Collector and the concerned department as they do not give sufficient publicity to it. This is the case not only in South Kanara but also in Malabar. So, will the Government be pleased to issue instructions that sufficient publicity must be given so that it may help the people to take much interest in these affairs?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I do not think that any more publicity is to be done in the matter of publicising the Local Development Works. I can say that it is quite popular and people are taking to it with great zeal and enthusiasm in the various districts and it is for the hon. Member to see that more enthusiasm is generated in Malabar so that the funds that would be available under the Local Development Works may be fully utilized.

SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : In the Malnad villages in the Kasaragod taluk, there are no panchayat boards and it is difficult to get 50 per cent contribution from the people. In view of the fact that it is a very backward area in all respects, will the Government consider the desirability of giving 75 per cent contribution to these works by the Government?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Except for drinking water-supply works, it is not possible to reduce the contribution under the Local Development Works below 50 per cent?

* 2779 *Q.*—SRI K. T. RAJU (on behalf of Sri C. Kandasamy) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount allotted to Tirunelveli district for the Local Development Scheme for the year 1954–55;

(*b*) what portion of it was allocated for schemes in the are covered by Sattankulam Assembly Constituency; and

(*c*) the proportion of the population in the Sattankulam Assembly Constituency to the population in the whole district?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) *to* (*c*) The attention of the Hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 2290, given in this House on 26th August 1955.